

FY2021 Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant Report

Organization Name:	Asheville Humane Society		
Project Name:	Pets & Their People Thriving Together		
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020)	
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)	
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021)	
	X	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021)	

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Overall project updates:	Thanks to the generous assistance of the Buncombe County Strategic Partnership grant, Asheville Humane Society's Community Solutions team were able to provide financial assistance and support for 52 pets in need of veterinary & wellness care. We were able to assist 34 dogs and 18 cats. The services ranged from medication for illness or injury to diagnostics and surgery. From January 1st - March 31st we received 321 calls on our Helpline for veterinary assistance. We also provided transportation for 11 of those pets.
COVID-19 impacts:	During the first two quarters of the grant veterinary clinics were either closed, booking appointments out months in advance and some not accepting new clients at all. During the third quarter veterinary clinics began to open more appointments and some accepted new clients. Many of our clients have no existing relationship with a veterinarian. Pet owners are faced with not just a lack of financial resources to meet their pet's medical needs, but a lack of available veterinary care. Our team had prioritized more critical cases during the first two quarters, but have now started to also work through the back-log of pets with less serious medical needs as well.
Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:	A consistent barrier to providing veterinary assistance for pet owners in our community, aside from financial barriers, is lack of access to transportation. Although staff members often provide necessary transportation, this is time-consuming and we have limited staff. In order to reduce the transportation barrier, as well as reduce staff transports, we created a pilot project with Uber to take animals to veterinary appointments. Although we are able to use that resource in some cases, we have found another challenge is that many pet owners do not have crates/carriers to keep to keep the animals confined during transport. The drivers vary, so we are unable to provide the driver with the items directly. We are in contact with Uber to brainstorm options.
Activities related to increasing operational excellence:	Through a Pilot Project funded by the Grey Muzzle Organization, AHS is developing and implementing a survey for clients who have used our veterinary assistance program for senior dogs to determine if the services should be expanded to help with quality of life and prevent owner surrender, If the program expands, we will seek additional funding to include cats. AHS is also continuing to work with AlignCare (https://pphe.utk.edu/aligncare/), the project developed by the University of Tennessee Knoxville. AlignCare is a One Health healthcare system that aligns the current resources of social service agencies and veterinary service providers while utilizing community funding. Clients of local social service agencies in need of veterinary care are referred to the AlignCare Veterinary Social Worker in Asheville by their Caseworker. If qualified, the client is connected with a local veterinary clinic to receive below market cost veterinary care. AlignCare pays the clinic directly.

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Progress toward annual goals

Measure	Annual Goal	Actual Results (Enter Data) Please only include new data for the specific quarter				Progress toward Annual Goal
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of Helpline calls requesting veterinary assistance	1,500	299	362	321	-	982
# of pets provided veterinary assistance with funds from this grant	100	28	41	52	-	121
# of pet surrenders to the Buncombe Animal Shelter prevented by vet assistance from grant	80	28	41	49	-	118

Comments:

The three pets who were not included in the owner surrender prevention were pets who were ultimately euthanized due to severity of the condition, the inability to prevent suffering and/or the prognosis.

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Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting Budget	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount Remaining
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel						\$ -
Training						\$ -
Supplies/Materials						\$ -
Meetings						\$ -
Equipment/Furniture						\$ -
Printing/Marketing						\$ -
Licensing/Memberships/Dues/Subscriptions						\$ -
Client Support						\$ -
Contracts						\$ -
Professional Services						\$ -
Insurance and Bonds						\$ -
Building Maintenance						\$ -
Veterinary Medical Assistance	\$ 15,000	\$ 3,766	\$ 6,035	\$ 5,199	\$ -	\$ (0)
Total	\$ 15,000	\$ 3,766	\$ 6,035	\$ 5,199	\$ -	\$ (0)

Comments: